

In The Matter Of:

*TERESA POPE HOOKS, ET AL. vs.
CHRISTOPHER BREWER, ET AL.*

*FORREST JONES
January 26, 2017*

*HAWTHORNE & WEBB COURT REPORTING
149 RIVER HILLS LANE
MACON, GEORGIA 31211*

Original File FORREST JONES.prn

Word Index included with this Min-U-Script®

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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA
DUBLIN DIVISION

TERESA POPE HOOKS, :
Individually and ESTATE :
OF DAVID HOOKS, by :
Teresa Pope Hooks, :
Administratrix, :
PLAINTIFFS, : CASE NO.
VS. : 3:16CV00023-DHB-BKE
CHRISTOPHER BREWER, ET AL., :
DEFENDANTS. :

JANUARY 26, 2017 DUBLIN, GEORGIA 9:45 A.M.

Deposition of FORREST JONES, called before Laura M. Jackson, Certified Court Reporter, State of Georgia, Certificate No. B-959, testimony taken in the Laurens County Courthouse Law Library, 101 North Jefferson Street, Dublin, Georgia, beginning at approximately 9:45 a.m., January 26, 2017.

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APPEARANCES:

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FOR THE DEFENDANT: MS. KELLY CHRISTOPHER
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ALSO PRESENT: MS. TERESA P. HOOKS

REPORTER'S NOTE: Witness RESERVES reading and
signing of the document.

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CROSS EXAMINATION
BY MR. SHOOK

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STIPULATIONS:

[1] MR. SHOOK: We thought we'd use the same
[2] stipulations. Do I need to repeat them?
[3] MS. CHRISTOPHER: Are they just the normal ones?
[4] MR. SHOOK: The normal stipulations.
[5] MS. CHRISTOPHER: Object to the form of the
[6] question and reserve everything else?
[7] MR. SHOOK: That's it.
[8] MS. CHRISTOPHER: That's fine.
[9] MR. SHOOK: Everything else. Yeah.
[10] (WHEREUPON, it was agreed by counsel for the
[11] respective parties that the stipulations governing the
[12] taking of the deposition of CHRISTOPHER BREWER will
[13] likewise govern the taking of the deposition of FORREST
[14] JONES.)
[15]

FORREST JONES

[16] Witness having been first
[17] duly sworn, testified on

CROSS EXAMINATION

BY MR. SHOOK:

[18] Q State your name for the record, please.

[19] A Forrest Edward Jones.

[20] Q Mr. Jones, my name is Mitch Shook. I, along with
[21] Brian Spears, represent Teresa Hooks in a case that's been
[22] filed in United States District Court for the Southern
[23]
[24]
[25]

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[1] District of Georgia, Dublin Division. We're here today to
[2] ask you some questions about this case that's filed. The
[3] defendants in this case as it stands right now are former
[4] Sheriff Bill Harrell, Chris Brewer, and Steve Vertin are the
[5] defendants that are involved in the case as it stands right
[6] now so you know what we're here talking about.
[7] I'm going to be asking you questions today. I will do
[8] everything I can to make sure that my questions are
[9] understandable and make sense to you. If I ask you a
[10] question that doesn't make sense to you or you need me to
[11] repeat, don't hesitate to ask me to do that and I'll repeat
[12] it. I don't want you to be confused about your answer. At
[13] the same time, if you would, when I ask you a question, if
[14] you would give me an answer to the question as directly as
[15] you possibly can I would appreciate that.
[16] And also, you've noticed we have a court reporter here
[17] who's just sworn you in to tell the truth. She's trying to
[18] take down everything that we say here today, what I say, you
[19] say, anyone else says during the course of the deposition.
[20] So if you would, when I ask you a question, give a verbal
[21] response, like a yes or a no, or whatever the verbal response
[22] might be. A lot of times we will start using things like uh-
[23] huh (affirmative), or uh-uh (negative), or nodding our head,
[24] and she can't take that down. It doesn't come out very well
[25] on a transcript. So if you would do that, and if at certain

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[1] times during the deposition if you don't do that, if you
 [2] forget to do that, I might prompt you to say -- I may say, is
 [3] that a yes or is that a no? By doing that I'm not trying to
 [4] be a smart aleck or anything. I'm just trying to get the
 [5] record straight for her. Okay?
 [6] **A Yes.**
 [7] Q All right. Tell me, Mr. Jones, are you originally
 [8] from Laurens County?
 [9] **A No.**
 [10] Q Where were you born and raised?
 [11] **A I was born in Palatka, Florida.**
 [12] Q Okay. And did you live in Palatka, Florida your
 [13] entire childhood?
 [14] **A No.**
 [15] Q After Palatka, Florida where did you live?
 [16] **A Hinsdale, Illinois.**
 [17] Q Hinsdale?
 [18] **A Yes.**
 [19] Q Illinois. And how old were you when you lived in
 [20] Hinsdale, Illinois? What ages, I guess I should say?
 [21] **A Three and seven.**
 [22] Q Three to seven?
 [23] **A Yes.**
 [24] Q After Hinsdale, Illinois where did you go?
 [25] **A Stoneham, Massachusetts.**

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[1] Q Would you say that fist word?
 [2] **A Stoneham.**
 [3] Q Stoneham?
 [4] **A S-T-O-N-E-H-A-M.**
 [5] Q Okay. What ages were you when you lived in
 [6] Stoneham, Massachusetts?
 [7] **A Second grade to sixth grade.**
 [8] Q Okay. And where did you move after that?
 [9] **A Charleston, West Virginia.**
 [10] Q And how old were you when you lived in Charleston?
 [11] **A Sixth grade through tenth grade.**
 [12] Q After you left Charleston where did you go?
 [13] **A Jellico, Tennessee.**
 [14] Q Jellico, Tennessee?
 [15] **A Yes.**
 [16] Q How old were you when you lived there?
 [17] **A Eleventh and twelfth grade.**
 [18] Q Okay. I'm assuming that's where you graduated high
 [19] school?
 [20] **A No.**
 [21] Q Okay. I went to a boarding school in Virginia for
 [22] four years.
 [23] Q And what school was that?
 [24] **A Shenandoah Valley Academy.**
 [25] Q Was that after high school or during high school?

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[1] **A That is high school.**
 [2] Q Okay. So your family lived in Jellico, Tennessee,
 [3] but they sent you to boarding school in Virginia?
 [4] **A Yes.**
 [5] Q Did you graduate from Shenandoah Valley?
 [6] **A Yes.**
 [7] Q Obviously, you moved around a lot as a child. Was
 [8] that as part of your family's occupation or work?
 [9] **A Yes.**
 [10] Q What caused that? What was your family involved
 [11] in?
 [12] **A My father is in radiology.**
 [13] Q Okay. Is he a radiologist?
 [14] **A No.**
 [15] Q What actually did he do in radiology?
 [16] **A Starting as a tech, but he went from place to place**
 [17] **as a manager of a department.**
 [18] Q Okay. After you graduated high school what -- tell
 [19] me about your educational background.
 [20] **A I initially went to Atlantic Union College.**
 [21] Q Where is that?
 [22] **A South Lancaster, Massachusetts.**
 [23] Q Okay.
 [24] **A Only for a year.**
 [25] Q All right.

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[1] **A I went to Southern College, Collegedale, Tennessee.**
 [2] Q Okay. How long did you go there?
 [3] **A Only a year.**
 [4] Q All right. After that?
 [5] **A A community college in -- I forgot the name of the**
 [6] **city -- California.**
 [7] Q All right. How long?
 [8] **A For only a semester.**
 [9] Q Okay.
 [10] **A Then Heart of Georgia Tech in Dublin for three**
 [11] **quarters. Then Macon Tech in Macon, Georgia, for a year.**
 [12] Q All right. With the post high school education
 [13] that you've completed, what degrees or diplomas or
 [14] certificates do you hold?
 [15] **A Just emergency medical technician and paramedic.**
 [16] Q Did you get -- complete those requirements at Macon
 [17] Tech?
 [18] **A They're two separate programs.**
 [19] Q Okay.
 [20] **A The EMT program was at Heart of Georgia in Dublin;**
 [21] **paramedic was at Macon. I completed both.**
 [22] Q All right. So the EMT at Heart of Georgia,
 [23] paramedic at Macon Tech. All right. What year did you
 [24] complete that and become an EMT and paramedic?
 [25] **A EMT was '95. Paramedic was '97.**

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 9</p> <p>[1] Q Got to ask, what brought you to Heart of Georgia [2] Tech in Dublin from California? [3] A I moved back in with my parents to do something [4] constructive. [5] MR. SHOOK: Let's go off. [6] (OFF THE RECORD) [7] Q MR. SHOOK: So prior to -- after you graduated and [8] received your qualifications to be an EMT and paramedic, did [9] you immediately get a job in that field? [10] A Yes. [11] Q Where was that at? [12] A Laurens County, Georgia. [13] Q What company was that with? [14] A Laurens County Emergency Medical Services. [15] Q Laurens County EMS? [16] A Yes. [17] Q What year would that have been, '97 or '98? [18] A No. I was hired after the EMT certification full [19] time in '96. [20] Q Prior to working at Laurens County EMS did you have [21] any other jobs as you were going through your educational [22] process involving the health care industry? [23] A I worked for Med First in Dublin, Georgia -- [24] Q Okay. [25] A -- delivering and set up of durable home medical</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 11</p> <p>[1] that you didn't learn in paramedic school. It's adapting it [2] to environments that the ordinary paramedic is not used to. [3] Q And what different types of environments would that [4] include? [5] A That can be weather environments, dangerous [6] environments. It could cover school active shooter [7] environments. [8] Q Natural disasters, that type of thing? [9] A Yes. Yes. [10] Q And obviously, we're here today because of your [11] involvement with the Laurens County SRT. Was that tactical [12] EMS class necessary for you to become a part of or [13] participate with the Laurens County SRT? [14] A It's not required. It's not required initially; [15] however, my understanding anyone that gets -- any medic that [16] gets on the team, at some point, has to get some further [17] tactical training. [18] Q Okay. All right. And was it your understanding [19] that was a policy of the Sheriff's Department? [20] MS. CHRISTOPHER: Object to form. [21] A THE WITNESS: I don't know. [22] Q All right. Well, let me ask you, do you know who [23] made that requirement or if there was an agency that made [24] that requirement? [25] A I don't know.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 10</p> <p>[1] equipment. [2] Q When would you have done that? [3] A Sometime in '94 through '95. [4] Q Other than that job, any prior jobs involving the [5] medical field? [6] A No. [7] Q Has -- other than the EMT and paramedic degree or [8] qualifications, do you have any other qualifications in the [9] health care industry? [10] A I took a critical care paramedic class; however, [11] that is a renewable certification that I no longer hold. [12] Q Okay. [13] A And went to a tactical EMS school in Savannah. [14] Q Tactical EMS? [15] A Yes. [16] Q Where did you take the critical care class? [17] A Augusta, Georgia. [18] Q And briefly tell me what the basis of that was. [19] A It goes beyond the normal scope of paramedic school [20] and just gets deeper into more physiology and more of a [21] hospital ICU type of understanding and treatment. [22] Q And the tactical EMS class you took at Savannah? [23] A Yes. [24] Q What did that involve? [25] A That takes -- it doesn't teach you anything new</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 12</p> <p>[1] Q Is it fair to say that at some point in time [2] someone said to you, you need to go get this if you're going [3] to be on the SRT? [4] A No. I and others chose to go get it. No one told [5] us prior to us going. [6] Q Okay. No one directed that you had to do it? You [7] did it on your own? [8] A Yes. [9] Q All right. Have you worked since -- you began [10] working with Laurens County EMS in 1996? Have you worked [11] with any other EMSs? [12] A No. [13] Q So how long have you actually worked with Laurens [14] County EMS now, 21 years? [15] A Yes. [16] Q And as we sit here today, what is your -- I guess, [17] what would be your title or position? [18] A Captain. [19] Q Captain. Where does that put you in the hierarchy [20] of Laurens County EMS? [21] A The chain above me is Deputy Director and then [22] Director. [23] Q So that puts you third in the chain of command [24] based on that? Am I correct in that? [25] A Yes.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 13</p> <p>[1] Q Are there any other captains with the Laurens [2] County EMS? [3] A Yes. [4] Q How many captains total are there? [5] A Three. [6] Q And who are the other two? [7] A Kenny Andrews. [8] Q Okay. [9] A T.J. Johnson. [10] Q Let's back up a bit. Are you married? [11] A Yes. [12] Q And what's your wife's name? [13] A Allison Jones. [14] Q How long have you and Allison been married? [15] A This year will be 16 years. [16] Q Do y'all have any children? [17] A One. [18] Q What's the age of the child? [19] A He is 24. [20] Q He's not a child anymore? [21] A No. [22] Q What's his name? [23] A Cody Griggers, G-R-I-G-G-E-R-S. [24] Q Is Cody your stepson? [25] A Yes, but I adopted him.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 15</p> <p>[1] COURT REPORTER: Thank you. [2] Q MR. SHOOK: Is she originally from Laurens County? [3] A No. [4] Q Does she have any relatives that live in Laurens [5] County that you're aware of? [6] A Yes. [7] Q What would their last names be? Obviously, Brack? [8] A Pope. [9] MS. HOOKS: Mitch, I need to talk to you outside. [10] MR. SHOOK: Okay. Break. [11] (MR. SHOOK AND MS. HOOKS LEAVE THE ROOM MOMENTARILY AND THEN [12] COME BACK IN.) [13] Q MR. SHOOK: Mr. Jones, we were discussing -- you [14] said there would be some of your, I guess your wife's [15] relatives who would have the last name Pope? [16] A Yes. [17] Q And I guess at this point in time are you aware of [18] the fact that I guess your wife and Teresa are related in [19] some way? [20] A I know -- I knew that there was a possibility -- I [21] don't know how. [22] Q Okay. [23] A Somehow, someway. [24] Q Obviously, Teresa's maiden name is Pope. [25] A I was not aware of that.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 14</p> <p>[1] Q Okay. Do you have -- do you have any relatives [2] living in Laurens County -- [3] A Yes. [4] Q -- that are related directly to you, first? [5] A Yes. [6] Q And what would their last names be? [7] A Jones. [8] Q All of them would be Jones's? [9] A Yes. [10] Q That's a fairly common name in the south and I [11] guess everywhere for that matter. Can you tell me a little [12] bit about what those relationships would be? Like, is it [13] father, mother, uncles, cousins? [14] A It's father and mother. [15] Q Have any siblings that live here? [16] A No. [17] Q Do you have any uncles or aunts? [18] A No. [19] Q Any cousins that you're aware of? [20] A No. [21] Q Okay. Your wife, is she -- what was her maiden [22] name? [23] A Brack. [24] COURT REPORTER: B-R-A-C-K? [25] THE WITNESS: Yes.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 16</p> <p>[1] Q Okay. So you're not aware of the relationship -- [2] A No. [3] Q -- between your wife and Teresa? [4] A No. [5] Q And also, I guess, your father is the director over [6] -- or is he now or has he been, I guess, in the past, a [7] teacher or instructor at Heart of Georgia in the radiology [8] department? [9] A Yes. [10] Q And are you aware that -- of what Ms. Hooks does [11] for a living? [12] A No. [13] Q Okay. In fact, do you know Teresa at all? [14] A No. [15] Q Okay. Did you know David? [16] A No. [17] Q So other than Brack or Pope would there be any [18] other names of relatives of your wife that you might be aware [19] of? [20] A No. [21] Q At time during the course of your being a EMT and a [22] paramedic, I think I already know the answer to this but I've [23] got to ask it anyway, at any time has your license to do [24] either one of those jobs ever been suspended for any reason? [25] A No.</p>

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[1] Q And I already know the answer to this as well, but
 [2] have you been arrested or convicted of any crimes during your
 [3] lifetime?
 [4] **A No.**
 [5] Q When did you -- when did you join the SRT?
 [6] **A 2006.**
 [7] Q And when you joined the SRT who was the head of the
 [8] SRT at that point in time?
 [9] **A Bryan Stokes.**
 [10] Q And my understanding is that Bryan Stokes was the
 [11] head of the SRT in 2014 when this incident took place,
 [12] September of 2014. At any point in time were you aware of
 [13] anyone else being head of the SRT other than Bryan Stokes?
 [14] **A Yes.**
 [15] Q Who was that?
 [16] **A Brian Scarborough.**
 [17] Q When was that?
 [18] **A I don't know the time, the year time frame.**
 [19] Q Does that mean at some point in time Bryan Stokes
 [20] left or quit being the head of the SRT and Brian Scarborough
 [21] stepped in?
 [22] **A Yes.**
 [23] Q And then at some point in time that reversed back?
 [24] Bryan Stokes became the head of the SRT again?
 [25] **A Yes.**

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[1] Q Do you have -- have you kept any record of the
 [2] number of times that you have went out on a mission with the
 [3] SRT?
 [4] **A No.**
 [5] Q Is there any written record that you're required to
 [6] complete and turn in to anyone if you go out on a call with
 [7] SRT?
 [8] **A When directed.**
 [9] Q Who would do the direction? Who would be involved
 [10] in directing you to do that?
 [11] **A The commander.**
 [12] Q And that would, again, be Bryan Stokes?
 [13] **A Yes.**
 [14] Q Or Brian Scarborough?
 [15] **A Yes.**
 [16] Q And what circumstances would the commander direct
 [17] you to do a documentary report or something of that nature of
 [18] a call?
 [19] **A I don't know what he -- I mean, I don't know. We**
 [20] **do it when he says and don't we he doesn't.**
 [21] Q So that's not something that's consistently done
 [22] for every call?
 [23] **A No.**
 [24] Q What about -- what would have -- what was the
 [25] purpose of having an EMT present when the SRT went out for a

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[1] call?
 [2] **A It's to have as quick medical treatment as**
 [3] **possible.**
 [4] Q And prior to September 24, 2014, when this incident
 [5] occurred had you in the past been in situations where you
 [6] rendered treatment during the implementation of the SRT?
 [7] **A Yes.**
 [8] Q Do you know about how many times?
 [9] **A No.**
 [10] Q Well, without giving me names, because I would not
 [11] want you to violate any HIPAA regulations or anything of that
 [12] nature, have there been times in the past when you rendered
 [13] aid to civilians who were involved in the -- or injured in
 [14] some way during the involvement of the SRT's implementation?
 [15] **A Yes.**
 [16] Q Do you recall how many times that might have been?
 [17] **A No.**
 [18] Q Do you recall whether or not you were involved in
 [19] any -- the treatment of any civilian within the year prior to
 [20] this?
 [21] **A I don't know.**
 [22] Q Okay. Would you always do a report if you were
 [23] involved in the treatment of a person?
 [24] **A No.**
 [25] Q Would you always do a medical record if you were

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[1] involved in the treatment of a person?
 [2] **A No.**
 [3] Q What circumstances would there be where you
 [4] wouldn't do a medical record?
 [5] **A If they did not -- if they did not choose further**
 [6] **evaluation or transportation to the hospital.**
 [7] Q I understand. So I guess what you're saying is, if
 [8] you just looked somebody over to make sure they're okay and
 [9] they said, I'm fine, you wouldn't do a medical record for
 [10] that?
 [11] **A Right.**
 [12] Q If you found an injury and either you decided it
 [13] was in their best interest to go to the hospital or to be
 [14] transported, or they asked you to transport them, then you
 [15] would do a medical record?
 [16] **A I may not, personally.**
 [17] Q Okay.
 [18] **A There would be a medical record.**
 [19] Q A medical record done by someone who was involved
 [20] as an EMT or paramedic?
 [21] **A Yes.**
 [22] Q In the years prior to September 24, 2014, were
 [23] there occasions where you treated members of the SRT who were
 [24] injured?
 [25] **A Yes.**

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 21</p> <p>[1] Q Do you recall how many times that would have been?</p> <p>[2] A No.</p> <p>[3] Q Do you recall prior to September 24, 2014, whether</p> <p>[4] it was a civilian or a member -- well, let's start with</p> <p>[5] civilian. Do you recall ever treating a civilian for a</p> <p>[6] gunshot wound that was part of the SRT?</p> <p>[7] A Ask again.</p> <p>[8] Q That didn't make any sense.</p> <p>[9] MS. CHRISTOPHER: Object to form.</p> <p>[10] Q MR. SHOOK: Yeah. That doesn't make sense. Do you</p> <p>[11] recall prior to September 24, 2014, treating any civilian for</p> <p>[12] a gunshot wound that occurred as a result of the SRT's</p> <p>[13] participation or implementation in something?</p> <p>[14] A I have treated a gunshot wound victim that was at</p> <p>[15] the scene of an SRT operation.</p> <p>[16] Q Okay. Did that gunshot wound result from a law</p> <p>[17] enforcement officer discharging their weapon?</p> <p>[18] A Yes.</p> <p>[19] Q What year was that?</p> <p>[20] A I don't remember.</p> <p>[21] Q Do you recall whether or not it was within two</p> <p>[22] years of 2014?</p> <p>[23] A I don't know.</p> <p>[24] Q Where did it occur?</p> <p>[25] A In Laurens County.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 23</p> <p>[1] implementation of the SRT?</p> <p>[2] A No.</p> <p>[3] Q Have you ever treated any law enforcement officer,</p> <p>[4] period, for the treatment of a gunshot wound?</p> <p>[5] A No.</p> <p>[6] Q Okay. My understanding is -- well, let me just ask</p> <p>[7] you this, were you on duty September 24, 2014, as an EMT?</p> <p>[8] A No.</p> <p>[9] Q At some point in time -- do you recall what you had</p> <p>[10] been doing that day?</p> <p>[11] A No.</p> <p>[12] Q At some point in time did you get a call regarding</p> <p>[13] the SRT?</p> <p>[14] A Yes.</p> <p>[15] Q Tell me when you got that call.</p> <p>[16] A I don't know.</p> <p>[17] Q How would you have gotten that call?</p> <p>[18] A Text or page.</p> <p>[19] Q And who would the text or page have been from or</p> <p>[20] who was it from?</p> <p>[21] A The 911 center.</p> <p>[22] Q And when you get that -- or when you got that text,</p> <p>[23] what did the text or page say?</p> <p>[24] A I don't recall.</p> <p>[25] Q Typically, when you would get a text or a page</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 22</p> <p>[1] Q What location in Laurens County?</p> <p>[2] A In Lovett.</p> <p>[3] Q Lovett?</p> <p>[4] A Uh-huh (affirmative).</p> <p>[5] Q And was the person that suffered the gunshot wound</p> <p>[6] a male or a female?</p> <p>[7] A Male.</p> <p>[8] Q Was the gunshot wound to the person involved in</p> <p>[9] that situation fatal?</p> <p>[10] A Yes.</p> <p>[11] Q Other than that instance, do you recall any other</p> <p>[12] instances where civilians suffered gunshot wounds as the</p> <p>[13] result of the implementation of the SRT?</p> <p>[14] A Other than Lovett?</p> <p>[15] Q Other than the incident at Lovett or the incident</p> <p>[16] we're here talking about today?</p> <p>[17] A No.</p> <p>[18] Q Same question, a little differently. Have you ever</p> <p>[19] treated a member of the SRT or any other law enforcement</p> <p>[20] officer -- let me back up. Have you ever treated a member of</p> <p>[21] the SRT for a gunshot wound as a result of the implementation</p> <p>[22] of the SRT team?</p> <p>[23] A No.</p> <p>[24] Q Have you ever treated any other law enforcement</p> <p>[25] officer for a gunshot wound not -- or related to the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 24</p> <p>[1] regarding your duties with the SRT what would it say? Come</p> <p>[2] to the station? What's the direction?</p> <p>[3] A Yes. Respond to LEC.</p> <p>[4] Q Okay. And do you recall what time you arrived at</p> <p>[5] the Laurens County Sheriff's office?</p> <p>[6] A No.</p> <p>[7] Q I'm assuming that's where you went?</p> <p>[8] A Yes.</p> <p>[9] Q You don't recall what time you got there?</p> <p>[10] A No.</p> <p>[11] Q Do you recall how long you were there before you</p> <p>[12] left?</p> <p>[13] A No.</p> <p>[14] Q Do you know whether it was an hour? Two hours?</p> <p>[15] Three hours?</p> <p>[16] A I couldn't estimate. No. More than five minutes,</p> <p>[17] less than eight hours. I don't know.</p> <p>[18] Q Okay. Did you participate in any briefing?</p> <p>[19] A Yes.</p> <p>[20] Q And who was involved in the briefing?</p> <p>[21] A I don't recall everyone.</p> <p>[22] Q Okay. Well, was Bryan Stokes there?</p> <p>[23] A Yes.</p> <p>[24] Q Was Chris Brewer there?</p> <p>[25] A Yes.</p>

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[1] Q Sheriff Harrell?

[2] A I don't recall.

[3] Q Steve Vertin?

[4] A Yes.

[5] Q You don't recall whether you saw Sheriff Harrell

[6] there or not?

[7] A Not in the briefing, no.

[8] Q Did you see him on the premises?

[9] A Yes.

[10] Q And how long had you been there at that point in

[11] time when you first encountered Sheriff Harrell?

[12] A I don't know.

[13] Q Do you recall when you first pulled up if he was

[14] there?

[15] A I don't recall seeing him when I pulled up in the

[16] parking lot.

[17] Q Do you recall seeing him when you went through the

[18] door?

[19] A I don't recall.

[20] Q Well, what do you recall about the briefing itself?

[21] A Typical.

[22] Q Okay. Well, what was -- what was covered in the

[23] briefing?

[24] A The location, the plan.

[25] Q Was there a written operations plan?

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[1] A Yes.

[2] Q Did you see that plan? I guess -- let me ask you

[3] this, was the plan, the written operations plan, shared with

[4] everybody in the briefing?

[5] A I don't recall.

[6] Q But you recall seeing it yourself?

[7] A Yes.

[8] Q And with regards to the written operations plan,

[9] did it cover who was going to be where and what each of you,

[10] your individual job duties would be?

[11] A Yes, in general terms.

[12] Q Okay. Did anyone go over the search warrant with

[13] the team?

[14] A Yes.

[15] Q Who would have done that?

[16] A I don't recall who it was. That, as well, is

[17] typical that the warrant is passed around and gone over.

[18] Q And would that mean that everyone in the briefing

[19] would have access to the warrant to read it, look at it, see

[20] what it was about?

[21] A Yes.

[22] Q And you had access to it?

[23] A Yes.

[24] Q And to your knowledge other people in the briefing

[25] room had the same access you had to it?

Page 27

[1] A Yes.

[2] Q Generally, in those situations would the drug unit

[3] be the one that would go over the warrant with people or the

[4] members of the SRT?

[5] A That would not be unusual.

[6] Q What was your understanding of the duties of the

[7] SRT that night? What was the purpose of the SRT going there

[8] for?

[9] A To secure the residence, the building.

[10] Q Was it -- based on what you were told and what you

[11] saw in the plan, was it your understanding that the SRT was

[12] not going to be involved in the actual search of the

[13] premises?

[14] A Yes. That's correct.

[15] Q That's correct? In other words, -- I said that in

[16] a bad way. I'm correct in saying your understanding is that

[17] the SRT was not participating in the search?

[18] A You're correct.

[19] Q And do you recall any discussions about the fact

[20] that the Hooks' home had been burglarized a couple of nights

[21] before this?

[22] A Yes.

[23] Q What do you recall being said about that?

[24] A I recall that some type of burglary incident had

[25] taken place there prior to that -- the night in question. I

Page 28

[1] don't recall details of who, what was taken, damaged. I

[2] don't recall that.

[3] Q Where was this briefing held at?

[4] A In the -- I guess, at the break room at the

[5] Sheriff's Department.

[6] Q And were there -- can you give me an estimate of

[7] how many people were present for the briefing?

[8] A The rooms a little bigger than this. Twenty. I

[9] don't know.

[10] Q Was the room full?

[11] A Yes.

[12] Q Did you see anyone coming and going during the

[13] briefing that you recall, entering and exiting the room?

[14] A No.

[15] Q Was it your understanding that everybody that was

[16] going to participate in this was supposed to be in that

[17] briefing?

[18] MS. CHRISTOPHER: Object to form.

[19] A THE WITNESS: I wouldn't know.

[20] Q Okay. What's your understanding -- as being a

[21] person who is assigned to the SRT, what's your understanding

[22] about -- or what was your understanding about the policy of

[23] the SRT when it come (sic) to the briefings with regards to

[24] participants being present?

[25] A I don't know.

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 29</p> <p>[1] Q Well, if you were going to participate in the</p> <p>[2] execution or the securing of the building, as you've said, in</p> <p>[3] pursuant to an alleged search warrant, was -- I mean, if you</p> <p>[4] were a member of the SRT, was it optional whether or not you</p> <p>[5] attended the briefing?</p> <p>[6] MS. CHRISTOPHER: Object to form.</p> <p>[7] A THE WITNESS: I don't know.</p> <p>[8] Q You don't know?</p> <p>[9] A Uh-uh (negative).</p> <p>[10] Q Okay. That's fair. I mean, you weren't a deputy,</p> <p>[11] right?</p> <p>[12] A No, I'm not.</p> <p>[13] Q You had no arrest powers?</p> <p>[14] A Correct.</p> <p>[15] Q You weren't a certified peace officer?</p> <p>[16] A Correct.</p> <p>[17] Q And basically, the training that you had had with</p> <p>[18] regards to this type of situation was the training you</p> <p>[19] received at the tactical school in Savannah, the tactical EMS</p> <p>[20] school, correct?</p> <p>[21] A And subsequent training with the team.</p> <p>[22] Q Okay. And that would be kind of in-house training</p> <p>[23] with the team itself?</p> <p>[24] A In-house, as well as outside instructor courses and</p> <p>[25] classes.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 31</p> <p>[1] A John Spires.</p> <p>[2] Q Okay.</p> <p>[3] A John Mabry.</p> <p>[4] Q Okay.</p> <p>[5] A And Jack Wood.</p> <p>[6] Q Okay. All of those licensed EMTs and paramedics?</p> <p>[7] A Yes. They're all paramedics.</p> <p>[8] Q Of the EMTs and paramedics involved with the SRT</p> <p>[9] that night, who was the highest ranking?</p> <p>[10] A Dwayne Ussery.</p> <p>[11] Q What was his rank?</p> <p>[12] A He's the deputy director of the ambulance service.</p> <p>[13] Q Second highest ranking?</p> <p>[14] A Me.</p> <p>[15] Q During the briefing were people that were part of</p> <p>[16] the briefing allowed to ask questions regarding what was</p> <p>[17] going to happen?</p> <p>[18] A Yes.</p> <p>[19] Q And were they allowed to ask questions about the</p> <p>[20] written operations plan?</p> <p>[21] A Yes.</p> <p>[22] Q Did you ask any questions?</p> <p>[23] A No.</p> <p>[24] Q Do you recall any questions that were asked in your</p> <p>[25] presence?</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 30</p> <p>[1] Q All right. Okay. Do you recall during the</p> <p>[2] briefing discussions regarding the fact that David Hooks</p> <p>[3] would be on high alert as a result of the burglary at his</p> <p>[4] home a couple of nights before this?</p> <p>[5] A No.</p> <p>[6] Q Do you recall any conversations during the briefing</p> <p>[7] about the fact that David Hooks was a person who owned</p> <p>[8] firearms, and perhaps a lot of firearms?</p> <p>[9] A No.</p> <p>[10] Q Do you recall any conversations during the briefing</p> <p>[11] about alternative ways to execute the alleged search warrant,</p> <p>[12] other than the way that was being planned?</p> <p>[13] A No.</p> <p>[14] Q Do you recall when the briefing took place? What</p> <p>[15] time?</p> <p>[16] A No, I don't.</p> <p>[17] Q Do you recall -- let me back up. My understanding</p> <p>[18] is there were other -- were there other EMTs or paramedics</p> <p>[19] that were assigned to the SRT that night as well?</p> <p>[20] A Yes.</p> <p>[21] Q And who were they?</p> <p>[22] A Dwayne Ussery.</p> <p>[23] Q And what was Dwayne Ussery's job that night?</p> <p>[24] A He was -- he was on the perimeter of the house.</p> <p>[25] Q And who else?</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 32</p> <p>[1] A No.</p> <p>[2] Q Who do you recall speaking at the briefing?</p> <p>[3] A I don't specifically.</p> <p>[4] Q Normally who would speak at a briefing like that?</p> <p>[5] A Commander.</p> <p>[6] Q That would be Bryan Stokes?</p> <p>[7] A Yes.</p> <p>[8] Q Okay.</p> <p>[9] A Could be the case officer of whatever it is,</p> <p>[10] whatever the case is.</p> <p>[11] Q Which in this case would be Chris Brewer?</p> <p>[12] A Yes.</p> <p>[13] Q Okay.</p> <p>[14] A Could be the Chaplain.</p> <p>[15] Q Chaplain?</p> <p>[16] A I don't know if he's really a Chaplain, but Gerald</p> <p>[17] Frazier is --</p> <p>[18] Q He's supposed to be the Chaplain?</p> <p>[19] A Well, he at least acts as our Chaplain and he does</p> <p>[20] very well at it.</p> <p>[21] Q Okay. And that would be more or less a prayer type</p> <p>[22] thing?</p> <p>[23] A Yes.</p> <p>[24] Q And my understanding is that -- well, let me just</p> <p>[25] ask you this, have you been, in the past, prior to this, on</p>

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[1] calls with the SRT where the Sheriff was present?

[2] **A Yes.**

[3] Q And is it your understanding that the Sheriff would

[4] participate regularly with the SRT if they went out on a

[5] call?

[6] **A Not unusual for him to be there.**

[7] Q Is it fair to say he was there certainly more than

[8] he was not?

[9] **MS. CHRISTOPHER:** Object to form.

[10] **A THE WITNESS:** I wouldn't know.

[11] Q You wouldn't know? And of course, the Sheriff, to

[12] your knowledge, would be the highest ranking law enforcement

[13] officer involved in the briefing at all? Correct?

[14] **A Yes.**

[15] Q No one in that briefing had more authority than he

[16] did?

[17] **A Not that I know of.**

[18] Q And he would regularly participate in the

[19] briefings?

[20] **A That was not unusual.**

[21] Q All right. So do you recall any discussion during

[22] the briefing about the possibility that there might be Mr.

[23] and Ms. Hooks' daughter, or son, or grandchildren present at

[24] the residence?

[25] **A No.**

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[1] Q Do you recall seeing a diagram of the house at the

[2] briefing?

[3] **A No.**

[4] Q Do you recall anybody discussing the layout of the

[5] house?

[6] **A No.**

[7] Q Do you recall anyone discussing which door the SRT

[8] would utilize to attempt to serve the search warrant?

[9] **A Yes.**

[10] Q And who was the person that came up with that?

[11] **A I don't know.**

[12] Q It would have had to have been one of the

[13] individuals in charge?

[14] **A That's an assumption.**

[15] Q Obviously, you didn't come up with the idea to go

[16] to the back door?

[17] **A No.**

[18] Q Versus the front door?

[19] **A Correct.**

[20] Q And as you sit here today you really don't know who

[21] came up with that concept?

[22] **A No.**

[23] Q What were you directed that your job was going to

[24] be?

[25] **A I would be at the rear of the group of personnel at**

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[1] **the back door.**

[2] Q Okay.

[3] **A And to remain there unless needed.**

[4] Q Okay. At some point in time the briefing was over

[5] and this group of people, including the SRT, started -- I

[6] guess, did they go to the parking lot to get in their

[7] vehicles?

[8] **A Yes.**

[9] Q And what vehicle did you ride in?

[10] **A I was in one of the box vans that we use to travel.**

[11] **It's an old ambulance.**

[12] Q Okay. And how were you dressed?

[13] **A In OD green pants, shirt, a ballistic vest, and a**

[14] **helmet.**

[15] Q And did you ride with the other members of the SRT?

[16] **A In the same vehicle, yes.**

[17] Q Can you see -- can you easily see out of the van

[18] that you're riding in on the way to the Hooks' residence?

[19] **A Yes.**

[20] Q Does it have windows on the side or back or both?

[21] **A Well, I could see from my vantage point. I'm in**

[22] **the front seat.**

[23] Q Okay. You were actually in the front seat with the

[24] driver?

[25] **A Yes.**

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[1] Q And how many vehicles in this caravan were ahead of

[2] you or the vehicle you were in?

[3] **A One.**

[4] Q And would that be the car that Kasey Loyd was

[5] riding in --

[6] **A Yes.**

[7] Q -- or driving in? Do you know who was in the

[8] vehicle with him?

[9] **A No.**

[10] Q Do you know how many cars were behind you?

[11] **A No.**

[12] Q Did -- on the way out to the residence, did Kasey

[13] Loyd have his blue lights on?

[14] **A No.**

[15] Q Did you at any time see him turn his blue lights

[16] on?

[17] **A No.**

[18] Q Do you recall how long it took to get from the

[19] Sheriff's Department out to the Hooks residence?

[20] **A No.**

[21] Q All right. Now, it's my understanding that you had

[22] prior to -- prior to arriving at the Hooks house, at some

[23] point in time you had called the EMS and asked that they

[24] position an ambulance in close proximity to the area?

[25] **A Yes.**

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[1] Q Do you know who you talked to when you did that?

[2] **A T.J. Johnson.**

[3] Q T.J. Johnson, okay. And was that a common practice

[4] when the SRT would go out?

[5] **A Yes.**

[6] Q Was it a policy that they did that or that you guys

[7] did that every time the SRT was implemented?

[8] **A I don't know if that's policy.**

[9] Q Okay. Did anyone specifically on that evening

[10] direct you to do that?

[11] **A No.**

[12] Q So you did that of your own volition?

[13] **A Yes. It was common practice.**

[14] Q Okay. Now, did you hear or was there any

[15] conversation in the van regarding the implementation of the

[16] SRT on the way out to the Hooks residence?

[17] **A I don't think I understand your question.**

[18] Q Well, did you guys, the members of the SRT, did you

[19] overhear them or did you have any conversations with them

[20] about what we're going to do when we get there while you're

[21] in the van on the way out there?

[22] **A No.**

[23] Q And what was your understanding about how this

[24] alleged search warrant was going to be executed? Was it

[25] going -- was it supposed to be a knock-and-announce warrant?

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[1] **A Yes.**

[2] Q And do you know what that means?

[3] **A Yes.**

[4] Q What's your understanding of what it means?

[5] **A Physically knock on the door and announce your**

[6] **presence.**

[7] Q Okay. Does that also encompass actually waiting

[8] for someone to come to the door and open the door to execute

[9] the warrant?

[10] **A Yes.**

[11] Q Do you recall there being any discussions during

[12] the briefing about how the knock and announce warrant was

[13] going to be executed? Was it going to be something that

[14] happened very quickly? Was it going to be something that was

[15] slow and time was taken with it?

[16] **A No.**

[17] Q So let me make that one question. Was it supposed

[18] to be something that was executed quickly?

[19] **A Not necessarily.**

[20] Q Was it -- was the -- do you recall anyone saying,

[21] we're going to take our time with this when we knock and

[22] announce?

[23] **A Yes. That's -- yes.**

[24] Q Was it -- do you recall there being discussions

[25] about the fact that this was a two-story house?

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[1] **A Yes.**

[2] Q And obviously, we know now that this -- that you

[3] guys arrived right at 11:00 o'clock at night. Do you recall

[4] about what time you guys got there?

[5] **A No. I know that from hearing. No. I mean I**

[6] **didn't look at my watch. I didn't know what time it was.**

[7] Q Right. At the time you didn't?

[8] **A No. Correct.**

[9] Q Obviously, at the point in time when you started

[10] administering aid, you were looking at your watch and

[11] charting things and making sure you --

[12] **A No.**

[13] Q You wouldn't have done that?

[14] **A No.**

[15] Q You wouldn't have charted exactly what time you

[16] started administering aid to Mr. Hooks?

[17] **A No.**

[18] Q Okay. But you know now that it was around 11:00

[19] o'clock?

[20] **A Yes.**

[21] Q So do you recall there being any discussions about

[22] the fact that at this time of night there's good likelihood

[23] that Mr. Hooks might be asleep?

[24] **A No.**

[25] Q Nobody mentioned that in the briefing?

Page 40

[1] **A Not that I heard.**

[2] Q That would be a reasonable thing to consider,

[3] wouldn't it, at 11:00 o'clock at night?

[4] **A I don't have an argument for that.**

[5] Q It's reasonable for people to be in bed at 11:00

[6] o'clock at night, I guess, is what I'm saying?

[7] **A Yes.**

[8] Q Especially people that work and get up early in the

[9] morning, right?

[10] **A Yes.**

[11] Q Now, my understanding is that you -- the van pulled

[12] up into the driveway. Do you recall whether or not the

[13] lights were on on the van?

[14] **A The headlights?**

[15] Q Uh-huh (affirmative). Yes.

[16] **A Yes.**

[17] Q You saw the headlights on the van on?

[18] **A Yes.**

[19] Q Do you recall whether or not at any point in time

[20] the driver turned those lights off prior to driving up the

[21] driveway to the house?

[22] **A No.**

[23] Q Is that a no, I don't recall?

[24] **A I don't recall.**

[25] Q Okay. Is it possible that lights were turned off

Page 41

[1] at some point in time as the van was approaching the house?

[2] **MS. CHRISTOPHER:** Object to the form.

[3] Q MR. SHOOK: Is that a possibility?

[4] **A I guess.**

[5] Q Okay.

[6] **A Yes, I'm sure -- anything's possible. I don't**

[7] **recall.**

[8] Q Based on what your recollection here today?

[9] **A Yes.**

[10] Q What about the lights on the vehicle that Kasey

[11] Loyd was driving, the headlights on it?

[12] **A I recall seeing them on.**

[13] Q Do you recall whether or not at any point in time

[14] they were turned off as the vehicle approached the driveway

[15] to the home?

[16] **A I do not recall.**

[17] Q So once again, based on your recollection is that a

[18] possibility?

[19] **MS. CHRISTOPHER:** Object to form.

[20] **A THE WITNESS: Yes, based on my recollection.**

[21] Q All right. Who was driving the van, by the way?

[22] **A Dwayne Ussery.**

[23] Q All right. So my understanding is you -- once the

[24] van came to a stop, you exited the van?

[25] **A Yes.**

Page 42

[1] Q At a point in time when you exited the van, had all

[2] the other members of the SRT that were in the back exited the

[3] back of the van?

[4] **A I don't know.**

[5] Q What's the first thing you recall seeing as you got

[6] out of the van?

[7] **A The house.**

[8] Q Okay.

[9] **A The house.**

[10] Q Do you recall seeing any lights on in the house?

[11] **A Yes.**

[12] Q At the point in time when you got out of the van?

[13] **A Oh, no. Not when I got out of the van.**

[14] Q Were all the lights -- do you recall that there

[15] were no lights on at the house when you got out at the van?

[16] **A At the van the only light visible was a security**

[17] **light.**

[18] Q That would have been an outside light?

[19] **A An outdoor light.**

[20] Q Okay. At some point in time did you see a light

[21] come on?

[22] **A No.**

[23] Q You're out of the van, you're standing next to the

[24] van. Do you see the members of the SRT head to the back

[25] door?

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[1] **A Yes.**

[2] Q And how were they traveling to the back door? Were

[3] they walking? Jogging? Running?

[4] **A Walking quickly.**

[5] Q Quick walk?

[6] **A Yes.**

[7] Q And where were you in line with that group?

[8] **A At the rear.**

[9] Q And how many people do you think were in front of

[10] you?

[11] **A Eight. I don't recall exactly.**

[12] Q And based on what was said during the briefing,

[13] what was your understanding about what Kasey Loyd was

[14] supposed to do?

[15] **A He would knock on the door and announce the**

[16] **presence.**

[17] Q And was he supposed to do that more than once?

[18] **A A number was not given.**

[19] Q So to your knowledge there was never a discussion

[20] about how many times he would knock on the door and announce

[21] that the Sheriff's Department was there?

[22] **A I don't recall that, no.**

[23] Q Do you recall what he was supposed to announce,

[24] what he was supposed to say?

[25] **A Sheriff's Department, search warrant.**

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[1] Q Okay. Now, my understanding is that you followed

[2] the SRT to the back door and you positioned yourself between

[3] the two vehicles that were in the carport?

[4] **A Yes.**

[5] Q And that would have been an SUV and a pick-up

[6] truck?

[7] **A I don't recall.**

[8] Q And my understanding is that at that point in time

[9] you believe that you were the last person in the group of SRT

[10] members approaching the back of the house?

[11] **A Yes.**

[12] Q And while you were at the back of the house did you

[13] hear Kasey Loyd knock on the door?

[14] **A Yes.**

[15] Q Did he knock on the door with his hand?

[16] **A Yes.**

[17] Q Do you know whether he used his hand or his fist?

[18] **A His fist.**

[19] Q Do you know whether he knocked on the wood part of

[20] the door or on the frame of the door?

[21] **A I don't know.**

[22] Q Do you know whether or not he knocked on the

[23] window?

[24] **A I don't know.**

[25] Q Could you see anything through the door from the

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 45</p> <p>[1] position you were at?</p> <p>[2] A I could see into the kitchen. There was a small</p> <p>[3] light on.</p> <p>[4] Q Would that have been like a nightlight?</p> <p>[5] A I don't know.</p> <p>[6] Q Well, was the entire kitchen illuminated or was it</p> <p>[7] --</p> <p>[8] A Not in this sense, no.</p> <p>[9] Q All right. And how many times did you hear Kasey</p> <p>[10] Loyd announce?</p> <p>[11] A I don't recall exactly. Three.</p> <p>[12] Q And do you recall -- would he knock and then</p> <p>[13] announce, "Sheriff's Department, search warrant?"</p> <p>[14] A Yes.</p> <p>[15] Q What kind of time period would there be in between</p> <p>[16] his announcing and then the next knock?</p> <p>[17] A That's hard to say.</p> <p>[18] Q Matter of seconds?</p> <p>[19] A Ten, 15 seconds.</p> <p>[20] Q Now, my understanding, at some point in time you</p> <p>[21] heard him say something else?</p> <p>[22] A Yes.</p> <p>[23] Q What was that?</p> <p>[24] A "Contact."</p> <p>[25] Q And did you hear that over the radio that you --</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 47</p> <p>[1] A Kasey said, "He dipped off to the right."</p> <p>[2] Q Kasey said, he dipped off to the right?</p> <p>[3] A Yes.</p> <p>[4] Q Do you know whether that would have meant Kasey's</p> <p>[5] right or the person in the house's right?</p> <p>[6] A I wouldn't know. I assume Kasey's right.</p> <p>[7] Q Okay. How long after the initial knock and</p> <p>[8] announce was it until you heard "contact?"</p> <p>[9] A I don't know.</p> <p>[10] Q Well, are we talking about a matter of seconds?</p> <p>[11] A I don't know. I couldn't accurately answer that.</p> <p>[12] Q Okay. What's the next thing you heard?</p> <p>[13] A Someone say, "breach."</p> <p>[14] Q Do you know who said the word "breach?"</p> <p>[15] A I don't.</p> <p>[16] Q Did you hear that through your earpiece or through</p> <p>[17] normal communication?</p> <p>[18] A Normal communication.</p> <p>[19] Q And what did you observe next?</p> <p>[20] A Someone breached the door with a ram.</p> <p>[21] Q Do you know who that was?</p> <p>[22] A I don't recall.</p> <p>[23] Q And how many times did they have to hit the door to</p> <p>[24] open it?</p> <p>[25] A I don't recall that either.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 46</p> <p>[1] A No.</p> <p>[2] Q -- were wearing? You heard him say that from his</p> <p>[3] voice?</p> <p>[4] A Yes.</p> <p>[5] Q Did the members of the SRT have radio ear piece and</p> <p>[6] microphone?</p> <p>[7] A Yes.</p> <p>[8] Q When he said "contact" what did you take that to</p> <p>[9] mean?</p> <p>[10] A It means he sees someone.</p> <p>[11] Q He sees someone?</p> <p>[12] A Yes.</p> <p>[13] Q Did he indicate who he saw or what he saw?</p> <p>[14] A "He."</p> <p>[15] Q He said --</p> <p>[16] A He used the word "he."</p> <p>[17] Q He used the word "he?"</p> <p>[18] A (Nodding head affirmatively.)</p> <p>[19] Q When did he use the word "he?"</p> <p>[20] A After he said "contact."</p> <p>[21] Q And what did you hear after that?</p> <p>[22] A "He's coming toward me."</p> <p>[23] Q He's coming toward me?</p> <p>[24] A Yes.</p> <p>[25] Q And then what did you hear?</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 48</p> <p>[1] Q Did it make a fairly large noise when that</p> <p>[2] battering ram is used to breach a door?</p> <p>[3] A Yes.</p> <p>[4] Q And did you observe the actual breach? Were you</p> <p>[5] physically --</p> <p>[6] A Yes.</p> <p>[7] Q -- watching when the door --</p> <p>[8] A Yes.</p> <p>[9] Q -- was breached? And when the door was breached,</p> <p>[10] did that cause the door to fling open in a rather loud</p> <p>[11] manner?</p> <p>[12] A It certainly flung open, yes.</p> <p>[13] Q There was nothing quiet about the breach?</p> <p>[14] A No.</p> <p>[15] Q What did you hear, if anything, next?</p> <p>[16] A Shouting.</p> <p>[17] Q And what was being shouted?</p> <p>[18] A "Put it down."</p> <p>[19] Q Did you hear anything other than "put it down?"</p> <p>[20] A Yes. But not that I could tell you what the</p> <p>[21] specific words were.</p> <p>[22] Q Did it appear to you that several people were</p> <p>[23] yelling at the same time?</p> <p>[24] A I'd say it sounded that way, yes.</p> <p>[25] Q And the fact that several -- and the people that</p>

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[1] were yelling were members of the SRT?

[2] **A That was my assumption. I could not physically see**

[3] **them.**

[4] Q And the fact that they were yelling all at the same

[5] time made it to the point where you couldn't understand

[6] exactly what they were saying?

[7] **A I couldn't understand everything they were saying.**

[8] Q And what's the next thing that you heard?

[9] **A Gunfire.**

[10] Q How many shots did you hear?

[11] **A I don't know.**

[12] Q How long between the first shot and the last shot?

[13] **A Very little.**

[14] Q Did it appear to you that the shots were almost all

[15] simultaneous with each other?

[16] **A Yes. Not literally simultaneous, but yes.**

[17] Q I guess what I'm saying is, at the point in time

[18] when you heard the first shot, to the point in time when you

[19] heard the last shot, was there ever any break in the shots?

[20] **A I mean, I could hear individual, but we're talking**

[21] **about half a second, a fraction of a second between them.**

[22] Q Right. If I told you there were 23 shots fired

[23] would you, based on what you heard that night, think that

[24] that was not accurate?

[25] **A I would have no reason to say it's not.**

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[1] Q My understanding is, is that from the time -- my

[2] understanding is that all the shots were fired before several

[3] members of the SRT could even get through the door.

[4] **MS. CHRISTOPHER:** Object to form. Is that a

[5] question?

[6] Q **MR. SHOOK:** Do you recall that?

[7] **MS. CHRISTOPHER:** Object to form.

[8] **A THE WITNESS: I don't recall how many were in or**

[9] **how many were out at the time.**

[10] Q You recall giving a recorded statement to GBI Agent

[11] Kendra Fitzgerald back right after this happened, right?

[12] **A Yes.**

[13] Q In fact, that was on September 25th at 1:36 a.m. at

[14] the Laurens County Law Enforcement Center?

[15] **A Yes.**

[16] Q And do you recall in that statement your telling

[17] her that before the last man got there the shots were already

[18] fired?

[19] **A Yes.**

[20] Q Do you recall who you -- well, let me back up. At

[21] some point in time did somebody request that you come into

[22] the house?

[23] **A Yes.**

[24] Q Do you recall who asked for your assistance?

[25] **A No.**

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[1] Q My understanding is, is that you went in behind

[2] Corporal Vertin?

[3] **A Yes.**

[4] Q And it's also my understanding that at the point in

[5] time that the shots were being fired that you couldn't

[6] actually see anything that was going on through the door?

[7] **A Correct.**

[8] Q When you entered the house tell me what you saw.

[9] **A I saw a kitchen island. I saw team members in**

[10] **front of me facing down a hallway. I saw to the right -- to**

[11] **my right a person lying down, right lateral -- on their right**

[12] **side.**

[13] Q Were there any lights on in the kitchen at this

[14] point in time?

[15] **A Yes.**

[16] Q Do you know who turned the lights on?

[17] **A No.**

[18] Q So you saw David lying on his right side?

[19] **A Yes.**

[20] Q And which way was he facing?

[21] **A He was on his right side facing away from me. He**

[22] **had his back to me.**

[23] Q And you would have been standing in the kitchen at

[24] the time?

[25] **A Yes.**

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[1] Q And did you see or hear any interaction between any

[2] members of the SRT and David at that time?

[3] **A No.**

[4] Q Did you hear anyone say anything to him about -- or

[5] give him any direction?

[6] **A No.**

[7] Q Who was -- who was guarding him?

[8] **A I don't know.**

[9] Q Did you see anyone standing over him as he was

[10] laying on the floor?

[11] **A No.**

[12] Q And what else did you see about -- tell me what

[13] else you observed about David on the floor.

[14] **A He was awake.**

[15] Q He was awake?

[16] **A Yes.**

[17] Q Did you see -- did you see a firearm?

[18] **A Yes.**

[19] Q My understanding is you saw that firearm at his

[20] feet?

[21] **A Yes.**

[22] Q Behind him or with his back turned to it?

[23] **A Well, no. It was at his feet.**

[24] Q And the barrel of the gun was pointing toward the

[25] kitchen?

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[1] **A The kitchen door, the exterior door. Kitchen**
 [2] **exterior door.**
 [3] Q So the shotgun would be laying on his backside?
 [4] **MS. CHRISTOPHER: Object to form.**
 [5] **A THE WITNESS: I mean, it's at his feet. It's not**
 [6] **in front of him or behind him.**
 [7] Q Okay.
 [8] **A It's below him.**
 [9] Q It's below him. All right. He's facing back into
 [10] the dining room --
 [11] **A Yes.**
 [12] Q -- at that point in time? Correct?
 [13] **A I'm not real familiar with what's what in the**
 [14] **house. So I'm --**
 [15] Q Well, let me rephrase that. He's facing away from
 [16] the kitchen?
 [17] **A Yes.**
 [18] Q He was conscious?
 [19] **A Yes.**
 [20] Q Did you speak with him?
 [21] **A Yes.**
 [22] Q Tell me what you said to him and what he said to
 [23] you.
 [24] **A I said can you speak to me?**
 [25] Q What did he say?

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[1] **A He didn't say any word. He looked at me, what I**
 [2] **took to perceive as a nod of the head.**
 [3] Q Did you have any other conversations with him while
 [4] you were there with him in the house?
 [5] **A Yes.**
 [6] Q What -- tell me about those.
 [7] **A I asked him not to move and that he would be**
 [8] **getting out soon.**
 [9] Q Did you observe where he had been struck by the
 [10] projectiles?
 [11] **A From my vantage point, yes.**
 [12] Q And what's your understanding of where, based on
 [13] when you first saw him, where his wounds were?
 [14] **A In his cheek or jaw and his chest. And I believe**
 [15] **in his back, left -- I don't remember exactly where,**
 [16] **trapezoid area or shoulder blade area.**
 [17] Q Of his back?
 [18] **A Yes.**
 [19] Q What's the next thing you did?
 [20] **A I determined that his breathing is stable.**
 [21] Q Okay.
 [22] **A And that there's not -- I'm looking for**
 [23] **uncontrolled bleeding that I can control --**
 [24] Q Okay.
 [25] **A -- at that moment.**

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[1] Q Tell me about your search for uncontrolled
 [2] bleeding.
 [3] **A Okay. There was bleeding. I could not identify**
 [4] **any arterial bleeding so --**
 [5] Q How would you identify that? By the color of the
 [6] blood?
 [7] **A The volume --**
 [8] Q The volume of the blood?
 [9] **A -- at which it's exiting.**
 [10] Q So at the scene based on your initial assessment
 [11] you didn't believe that there was arterial bleeding at that
 [12] point in time?
 [13] **A Not that I could identify.**
 [14] Q Okay. What did you do?
 [15] **A I called the ambulance that I knew would be**
 [16] **standing by close.**
 [17] Q Okay.
 [18] **A To tell them that we did have an individual that**
 [19] **needed the ambulance to come on in.**
 [20] Q Okay. What's the next thing you did?
 [21] **A I stayed there and other medics came in and removed**
 [22] **him.**
 [23] Q Do you recall who that was?
 [24] **A No.**
 [25] Q It's my understanding that at some point in time

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[1] you called for a drag mat? Is that correct?
 [2] **A Yes. I think my statement in there is -- I don't**
 [3] **recall the specific words. That would be the norm.**
 [4] Q Okay. And again, who were the EMTs that came in?
 [5] **A I don't know.**
 [6] Q All right. Now, my understanding is at the point
 [7] in time when the other EMTs came in and -- did they actually
 [8] put David on the drag mat and take him out?
 [9] **A I don't know because when they moved him, I wasn't**
 [10] **watching them.**
 [11] Q Okay.
 [12] **A Or I don't --**
 [13] Q So you don't know if they used a drag mat or if
 [14] they just actually physically drug him out?
 [15] **A Yeah. I don't.**
 [16] Q All right. Now, my understanding is you stayed in
 [17] the house at that point in time?
 [18] **A Yes.**
 [19] Q And tell me what you observed next.
 [20] **A A lot of calling out to someone.**
 [21] Q Okay. Tell me what you heard and who you heard it
 [22] from.
 [23] **A The only voice that I know I heard specifically**
 [24] **with a name is Steve Vertin saying to show me your hands,**
 [25] **come out with your hands up. Multiple times.**

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[1] Q Do you know about how long it was from the time you
[2] first heard Corporal Vertin asking the person to come out, to
[3] the point in time when they came out?
[4] **A I don't know.**
[5] Q Are we talking about a matter of seconds or
[6] minutes?
[7] **A Minutes.**
[8] Q Do you recall hearing Corporal Vertin say to what
[9] we now know is Ms. Hooks to put her hands behind her back?
[10] **A Yes.**
[11] Q And do you recall seeing him place her in handcuffs
[12] behind her back?
[13] **A No.**
[14] Q Do you recall seeing her (sic) physically take her
[15] from the residence?
[16] **A Do I recall her --**
[17] Q Do you recall seeing Corporal Vertin physically
[18] take her out of the residence?
[19] **A Yes.**
[20] Q And would he have -- well, do you recall how he
[21] took her out of the residence, what direction he came?
[22] **A From the front room through, I guess, what we've**
[23] **established is the dining room, --**
[24] Q Correct.
[25] **A -- into the kitchen, and out the exterior door.**

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[1] Q Okay. The place where -- so she was led through
[2] the area where Mr. Hooks had been laying after he was shot?
[3] **A Yes.**
[4] Q Was there quite a bit of blood in that area on the
[5] floor?
[6] **A There was blood in that area on the floor.**
[7] Q Did you observe anything about the condition of the
[8] residence as a result of all the gunfire that had taken place
[9] inside there?
[10] **A No.**
[11] Q Did you see any damage to the walls, furniture --
[12] **A No.**
[13] Q -- things of that nature? I'm assuming you're not
[14] saying it wasn't there; you're just saying you didn't see it?
[15] **A I didn't see it.**
[16] Q And my understanding is, is you observed Corporal
[17] Vertin bring Teresa Hooks outside the residence and sit her
[18] down in a chair next to the pool?
[19] **A Yes.**
[20] Q You were there and observed that yourself?
[21] **A Yes.**
[22] Q Did you have any conversation with Corporal Vertin
[23] about why are we doing this?
[24] **A No.**
[25] Q You're not a law enforcement officer? That's

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[1] really not your job, right?
[2] **A Correct.**
[3] Q Did anything you observed about Teresa Hooks as she
[4] was being brought out of the house make you think she was a
[5] threat to you in any way?
[6] **A No.**
[7] Q You observed what she was saying during that period
[8] of time, correct?
[9] **A Yes.**
[10] Q Tell me what you observed Teresa Hooks saying as
[11] she was being led out of the house and sat in the chair.
[12] **A Repetitive, "what's going on?"**
[13] Q Did you hear her asking about her husband?
[14] **A I don't recall.**
[15] Q When Teresa was brought out and sat in the chair,
[16] where was David?
[17] **A He was -- I don't recall how the vehicles were**
[18] **parked. I don't know if they were face in or face out, but**
[19] **on the opposite end of the vehicle as the vehicles -- as the**
[20] **kitchen door.**
[21] Q Okay. So the vehicles would have been between
[22] where she was positioned in a chair by the pool and where he
[23] was at?
[24] **A Yes.**
[25] Q Such that she would not be able to see him? Well,

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[1] maybe --
[2] **A I can't answer that.**
[3] Q Let me rephrase that. Well, the vehicles were in
[4] between where she was and where he was?
[5] **A Yes.**
[6] Q Did you observe anything going on with any EMTs or
[7] any other person with regards to David at the scene after you
[8] came out and Teresa was brought out and put in the chair?
[9] **A Yes.**
[10] Q Did you render any aid to David after that?
[11] **A No.**
[12] Q I'm assuming you don't know what was going on with
[13] David while you were still in the house with Corporal Vertin?
[14] **A That's correct.**
[15] Q You don't know what aid was rendered to him by the
[16] other EMTs or -- other than what they may have told you?
[17] **A I didn't witness them do it. I saw result of it**
[18] **after.**
[19] Q Okay. And is it your understanding that they
[20] attempted to use quick clot gauze and things of that nature
[21] to stop bleeding?
[22] **A Yes.**
[23] Q Did they start an IV?
[24] **A Yes.**
[25] Q And did you make any calls with regards to trying

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[1] to get any other type of ambulance or emergency service
 [2] there?
 [3] **A A call was made; I didn't make that call.**
 [4] Q To try to get --
 [5] **A I don't think I did.**
 [6] Q To try to get a helicopter there?
 [7] **A Yes.**
 [8] Q Did you have any other contact with Mr. Hooks after
 [9] that?
 [10] **A No.**
 [11] Q How long did you stay at the scene?
 [12] **A I don't know.**
 [13] Q Obviously, we know that you gave your interview to
 [14] Agent Fitzgerald at 1:36 --
 [15] **A Yes.**
 [16] Q -- in the morning. So at some point in time you
 [17] left the scene and went back to the law enforcement center,
 [18] correct?
 [19] **A Yes.**
 [20] Q Did you wait for the GBI to get there before you
 [21] went back or were you instructed to go back before the GBI
 [22] got there?
 [23] **A Got to the residence?**
 [24] Q Correct. Before the GBI got to the residence.
 [25] **A We were instructed.**

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[1] Q To go back?
 [2] **A Yes.**
 [3] Q Who instructed you to do that?
 [4] **A I don't recall.**
 [5] Q Would that have been the Sheriff?
 [6] **MS. CHRISTOPHER: Object to form.**
 [7] **A THE WITNESS: I don't know.**
 [8] Q The Sheriff was there on the scene, correct?
 [9] **A I don't know. At the time of our departure, I**
 [10] **don't know.**
 [11] Q Well, let me back up. The Sheriff was there on the
 [12] scene at the point in time when the search warrant was
 [13] attempted to be served?
 [14] **A Yes.**
 [15] Q And the Sheriff was there when David Hooks was
 [16] shot?
 [17] **A I don't know.**
 [18] Q Well, do you have any reason to believe he wasn't?
 [19] **A I didn't witness him. I did not witness him there,**
 [20] **but as far as I know he was there.**
 [21] Q Did you witness him there after David was shot,
 [22] while Teresa was being held next to the pool in the chair?
 [23] **A No.**
 [24] Q You did not participate in his -- David's
 [25] transportation to Fairview Park?

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[1] **A No.**
 [2] Q You didn't participate in his transportation to
 [3] Macon?
 [4] **A No.**
 [5] Q You -- during the period of time that you observed
 [6] -- how long do you think you were there and observed Teresa
 [7] in the chair handcuffed?
 [8] **A A minute. I don't know.**
 [9] Q Okay.
 [10] **A Short time.**
 [11] Q Did you ever observe anyone give her any answers to
 [12] her questions?
 [13] **A Yes.**
 [14] Q And who would that have been?
 [15] **A Chris Brewer.**
 [16] Q What did Chris Brewer say to Teresa Hooks?
 [17] **A He said we're here for a search warrant.**
 [18] Q Was that when she was in the chair?
 [19] **A Yes.**
 [20] Q You saw him approach her and say, we're here for a
 [21] search warrant?
 [22] **A No. It was response to her question of what's**
 [23] **going on.**
 [24] Q Okay. So where was he at in relation to her when
 [25] they had this conversation?

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[1] **A Standing beside her.**
 [2] Q He was standing beside her?
 [3] **A Yes.**
 [4] Q And she was in a chair?
 [5] **A Yes.**
 [6] Q She had handcuffs on to your knowledge?
 [7] **A I don't -- handcuffs, zip tie, something.**
 [8] Q Something?
 [9] **A Yes.**
 [10] Q She was restrained?
 [11] **A Yes.**
 [12] Q Now, I understand you're not a law enforcement
 [13] officer. You're an EMT.
 [14] **A Correct.**
 [15] Q Just based on your observation, did it appear to
 [16] you she was free to leave at any time she wanted to?
 [17] **MS. CHRISTOPHER: Object to form.**
 [18] **A THE WITNESS: I wouldn't know.**
 [19] Q Well, did the fact that she had been placed in a
 [20] chair by Corporal Vertin, restrained as just an ordinary
 [21] citizen, did that make you -- does that make you believe at
 [22] that point in time she was free to go?
 [23] **MS. CHRISTOPHER: Object to form.**
 [24] **A THE WITNESS: I couldn't answer that. At the time,**
 [25] **I don't -- I don't know who's the ordinary citizen or who's**

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[1] **not.**

[2] Q Oh, okay. I understand. And I know you're not a

[3] law enforcement officer so I'm -- I was just -- other than

[4] Chris Brewer telling her, we're here for a search warrant,

[5] did you hear anyone else or see anyone else have any

[6] conversation with her, to answer any questions that she was

[7] asking about what was going on, or about her husband, or

[8] anything?

[9] **A Not that I recall.**

[10] Q I think you described her demeanor when you spoke

[11] with Agent Fitzgerald that she was "quite hysterical?"

[12] **A Yes. Yes.**

[13] Q Did you observe her crying?

[14] **A Yes.**

[15] Q Screaming?

[16] **A Yes. The questions, what's going on? why? you**

[17] **could characterize as a yell.**

[18] Q Okay. You have, in your experience as an EMT,

[19] observed individuals in the past that have -- that are

[20] exhibiting symptoms of psychological trauma, haven't you?

[21] **A Yes.**

[22] Q Would you say that what you observed from Teresa

[23] Hooks that night as she was sitting in that chair was

[24] consistent with that?

[25] **MS. CHRISTOPHER: Object to form.**

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[1] **A THE WITNESS: Yes.**

[2] Q All right. Let me just look at a couple of things

[3] and I think I'm about done here. Did you overhear any of the

[4] -- any members of the SRT make any statements about the

[5] shooting, why they fired their weapon?

[6] **A No.**

[7] Q Were -- did you go back to the Law Enforcement

[8] Center with the rest of the members of the SRT?

[9] **A I don't know if it was everyone or partial. I**

[10] **don't know.**

[11] Q Did you go in the van?

[12] **A A van -- a transport van was sent --**

[13] Q Okay. So the van that you went in --

[14] **A -- to get us.**

[15] Q -- stayed on the scene?

[16] **A Yes.**

[17] Q Do you recall whether more than one van came to get

[18] you?

[19] **A I don't know.**

[20] **MR. SHOOK: That's it.**

[21] **(DEPOSITION CONCLUDED 11:38 A.M.)**

[22]

[23]

[24]

[25]

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D I S C L O S U R E

STATE OF GEORGIA,
COUNTY OF BIBB:

Deposition of: FORREST JONES

Pursuant to Article 8.B. of the Rules and Regulations of the Board of Court Reporting of the Judicial Council of Georgia, I make the following disclosure:

I am a Georgia Certified Court Reporter. I am here as a representative of Hawthorne & Webb Court Reporting.

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Dated: January 26, 2017

_____, CCR B-959
Certified Court Reporter

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C E R T I F I C A T E O F R E P O R T E R

GEORGIA, BIBB COUNTY;

I, Laura M. Jackson, CCR, B-959, CERTIFY that acting in such capacity on January 26, 2017, I reported the testimony of FORREST JONES, and on the foregoing pages, numbered 3 through 66, both inclusive, have transcribed a true, accurate and complete transcript of the same.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am not counsel for nor related to any of the parties; nor am I interested in the event or the outcome thereof.

WITNESS my hand and official seal this 6th day of February, 2017.

Certificate Number B-959

TERESA POPE HOOKS, ET AL. vs.
CHRISTOPHER BREWER, ET AL.

FORREST JONES
January 26, 2017

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CERTIFICATE OF WITNESS
IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA
DUBLIN DIVISION

TERESA POPE HOOKS, :
ET AL., :
PLAINTIFFS, : CASE NO.
 : 3:16CV00023-DHB-BKE
VS. :
 :
CHRISTOPHER BREWER, ET AL., :
DEFENDANTS. :

DEPOSITION OF: Forrest Jones January 26, 2017

() I wish to make the following correction(s):

PAGE/	LINE/	CORRECTION	/	REASON
___/___/	___/___/	___/___/	___/___/	___/___/
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() I have read the foregoing pages of my testimony and wish to make no corrections.

Forrest Jones

Sworn to and subscribed before me

This ___ day of ___, 20__.

Notary Public

(1) '94 - concept

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